



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

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GOVERNOR BREWER JOB RATINGS DIP FURTHER: EROSION AMONG INDEPENDENTS AND REPUBLICANS

Phoenix, Arizona, September 23, 2009. Led by a significant negative shift in the opinions of registered Republicans and Independents, Governor Janet Brewer's job ratings have dropped to only 22 percent favorable while 28 percent rate her performance as "poor." In May, only 18 percent of GOP voters rated the governor's performance as "poor" but that figure has now risen to 27 percent. Roughly 30 percent of Republicans now rate her performance as "good" or "excellent," a slight drop since May.

Registered Independents, who now comprise close to 30 percent of all voters, are the most dissatisfied with Governor Brewer ... 38 percent rating her performance as "poor" and only 16 percent rating her in favorable terms. And as was true earlier in the year, voters in Maricopa County are the most critical toward the Governor (32 percent negative to 24 percent favorable), but her reviews are also tipped toward the negative in Rural Arizona (18 percent favorable to 24 percent negative)

There is no evidence in this survey that evaluation of the governor varies by gender of the voter. Thus 22 percent of both men and women say she is doing a good job and 29 percent of men compared to 26 percent of women call her performance poor.

On the other hand, negative assessments of the governor do rise among non-Hispanic minorities (36 percent) compared to only 28 percent among Hispanics and 26 percent among Whites. Family income does not appear to be a driver in views toward the governor ... thus rich or poor, a plurality give Governor Brewer negative ratings.

Voter assessment of the Governor remain significantly lower than those of her two predecessors, Janet Napolitano(D) and Jane Hull(R), clear evidence that her struggles with GOP lawmakers over taxes and the 2010 budget have had an enduring impact.

This report is based on a survey of 800 interviews with adult heads-of-household in Arizona including 629 registered voters conducted between September 9 and 18, 2009 by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona as part of the Center's independent and non-partisan Rocky Mountain Poll series. The public is welcome to visit www.brcpolls.com for this and other poll results.

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This survey did not assess public views on the performance of the GOP dominated state legislature, but in May it was noted that Republican voters' assessment of the legislature was also unflattering: 33 percent unfavorable to only 21 percent favorable. Given the running struggle between the Executive and Legislative branch and the fact that a huge budget deficit remains after adoption of the 2010 budget, it would seem unlikely that public views would have modified greatly.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2009-III-01), is based on 800 interviews with adult heads of household across Arizona conducted between September 9 and 18, 2009 including 629 registered voters. Where necessary, figures for age, sex, race and political party were weighted to bring them into line with their actual proportion in the population. In a sample of this size, one can say with a 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 3.5 percent of what they would have been had the entire population been surveyed. Among the voter sample the statistical precision is plus or minus 4.0 percent. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program sponsored by the Center. This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

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ENCLOSED: Statistical data for reference.

STATISTICAL DATA

Behavior Research Center
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For this and other polls, see www.brcpolls.com/results.

“Next, I’d like to read you the names of some public officials. As I read each one, please just tell me if you think the job they are doing in office is excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor.”

		Excellent/ Good	Fair	Poor/ Very Poor	(Net Pos to Neg)
<u>EARLY JOB RATINGS FOR ARIZONA GOVERNORS</u>					
Jan Brewer -	Sept 2009	22%	30%	28%	(-6)
	May 2009 (Maricopa Only)	24	32	26	(-2)
Janet Napolitano -	October 2003	46	30	16	(+30)
	April 2003	49	24	10	(+39)
Jane Hull -	Jan 1998	56	20	3	(+53)
	October 1997	45	20	4	(+41)
 <u>CURRENT READINGS FOR GOVERNOR JAN BREWER (Statewide)</u>					
Total population		22%	20%	28%	(-6)
Registered voters only		24	28	31	(-7)
Republicans		30	28	27	(+3)
Independents		16	26	38	(-22)
Democrats		24	30	31	(-7)
Maricopa		24	28	32	(-8)
Pima		23	30	19	(+4)
Rural		18	34	24	(-6)